

APHIS Avian Influenza (AI) Border State Surveillance



HORTENTIA D. HARRIS, AVIC
VETERINARY SERVICES
ARIZONA

31st Annual Vector-Borne &
Zoonotic Diseases
Conference & Workshop 2007
Mesa, Arizona



Protecting American Agriculture



Topics in this Presentation

- AI Surveillance
- USDA's Commitment to International AI Efforts
- APHIS and AI: Future Plans



Protecting American Agriculture



Overview of APHIS AI Efforts



Protecting American Agriculture



U.S. Positioned to Contain Virus

- United States very active in international efforts to detect and control AI.
- U.S. industry more likely to report suspicious birds to help protect the overall health of the poultry industry.
- Compensation is an additional incentive.
- USDA National Avian Influenza Response Plan Summary in place.
- World's top AI researchers located in United States.



Protecting American Agriculture



USDA National HPAI Response Plan

- Intended to complement State and Industry plans that are more specific to local issues and needs.
- States should continue to develop plans that are specific to their poultry industry and requirements.
- “Living document” that will continue to evolve with new or additional information and with further stakeholder and partner communication.



Protecting American Agriculture



HPAI Response Plan Updates

- APHIS may authorize pre-emptive culling for presumptive positive cases that meet case definition
- Indemnification for owners and growers consistent with H5/H7 LPAI interim final rule formula.
- Contingent approval for water-based foam as a method of humane mass depopulation under certain conditions.



Protecting American Agriculture



APHIS AI Preparedness

- Key is early detection and rapid response
- USDA maintains a comprehensive emergency response structure:
 - Partnerships with local, State, and Federal organizations
 - Integration with the National Response Plan
 - Continual collaboration with HHS, DOI, DHS and other Federal entities
 - Diagnostic capabilities



Protecting American Agriculture



USDA/APHIS Response Strategy

- National Animal Health Emergency Management (NAHEMS) Guidelines
- Stamping out
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Availability of first responders
- Vaccines



Protecting American Agriculture



Trade Restrictions

- USDA maintains trade restrictions on the importation of poultry and poultry products from regions where the HPAI H5N1 strain has been detected in commercial or traditionally raised poultry.
- USDA regulations require that import permits accompany properly sanitized poultry products, such as raw feathers.



Protecting American Agriculture



Trade Restrictions (cont.)

- USDA is prepared to encourage trading partners NOT to disrupt trade.
- The USDA encourages trading partners to align import standards with science-based World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines to avoid import restrictions that are not scientifically based.



Protecting American Agriculture



Outreach & Education

USDA's Biosecurity for the Birds Campaign is an extensive and far-reaching outreach initiative designed to:

- Educate non-commercial poultry owners about the signs of AI & other poultry diseases
- Promote the importance of practicing biosecurity
- Encourage rapid reporting of clinical signs of disease and/or unexpected deaths



Protecting American Agriculture



AI Surveillance



Protecting American Agriculture



Surveillance: National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN)

NAHLN currently consists of 59 State and university labs in 46 States. NAHLN labs:

- Provide laboratory services nationwide
- Provide laboratory data for reporting
- Respond to foreign animal disease outbreaks
- Focus on animal diseases



Protecting American Agriculture



Summary of National AI Surveillance

- Multiple data streams for AI surveillance
- NSU and Aquaculture, Swine, Equine, and Poultry (ASEP) staff collaboration on development of the National AI Surveillance Plan
- Capitalizing on existing surveillance systems
 - NPIP Breeder flocks
 - Diagnostic labs (passive surveillance)
- Developing new surveillance systems
 - NPIP production flocks
 - LBMS
 - Wild birds
- Expanding laboratory capacity - NAHLN & NPIP labs

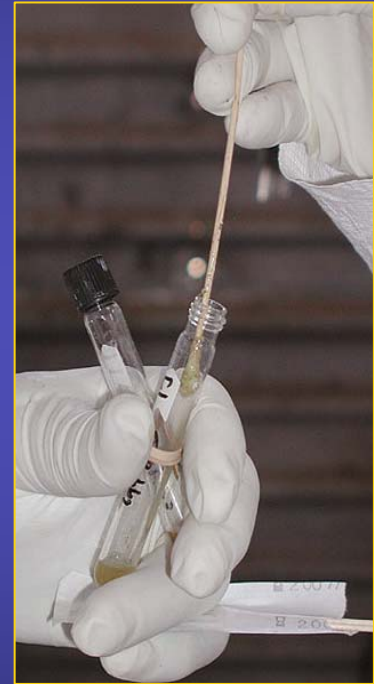


Protecting American Agriculture



Passive Surveillance for AI

- AI must be a reportable disease to the responsible state authority (state veterinarian, etc.) by all licensed veterinarians.
- All laboratories (private, state, and university laboratories) that perform diagnostic procedures on poultry should examine:
 - All submitted cases of unexplained respiratory disease, egg production drops, and mortality for AI.
 - Test by both an approved serological test and an approved antigen detection test.



Protecting American Agriculture



H5/H7 LPAI Indemnity

- APHIS is authorized to pay 100 percent of eligible costs related to infected or exposed commercial and breeding poultry from participating flocks in States that:
 - Participate in an APHIS approved diagnostic surveillance program for H5/H7 LPAI
 - Have APHIS approved Initial State Response and Containment Plan
- Commercial or breeder flocks that do not participate in NPIP provided 25 percent compensation for eligible costs.
- Small flocks are eligible for 100 percent indemnity if States meet above criteria.
- APHIS also pays surveillance, vaccination, monitoring, and euthanasia costs to the Cooperating State Agency of the affected State in outbreak situation.



Protecting American Agriculture



USDA's Commitment to International AI Efforts



Protecting American Agriculture



USDA International Efforts

- Eliminating the virulent strain of HPAI H5N1 at its source—in poultry abroad—is an effective way to reduce the chances of a domestic outbreak.
- To help slow the spread of HPAI H5N1, USDA has provided training and equipment, dispatched response teams, and expanded lab capacity in the United States to assist with international detection and diagnosis.



Protecting American Agriculture



USDA International Efforts (cont.)

- Committing \$1.2 million to the OIE for standardized assessments of foreign veterinary infrastructure.
- Supporting the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the OIE in their launch of a Crisis Management Center to coordinate global HPAI response and deploy rapid response teams to HPAI hotspots.



Protecting American Agriculture



USDA International Efforts (cont.)

- Establishing AI-dedicated offices and personnel in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, and Thailand that (where possible) are co-located with offices of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Hiring a local national veterinarian in Burma (Myanmar) to carry out USDA AI activities; and,
- Offering (as capacity-building for AI diagnostic testing) three training courses at the NVSL. These courses have provided training to some 99 foreign officials from 62 countries.



Protecting American Agriculture



APHIS and AI: Future Plans



Protecting American Agriculture



Expanded AI Surveillance Efforts

- NPIP surveillance has been expanded to commercial poultry production flocks – “AI Monitored” status.
- AI surveillance testing also expanded to upland game birds and waterfowl production flocks.
- APHIS has expanded the LBMS H5/H7 LPAI surveillance program to include more States.



Protecting American Agriculture



Proposed National Avian Influenza Surveillance Plan

Conduct comprehensive surveillance through an avian/poultry disease database to demonstrate AI prevention and control.



Data would be entered into a unified comprehensive database.



Surveillance data would be analyzed through National Avian Influenza Surveillance System.



Protecting American Agriculture



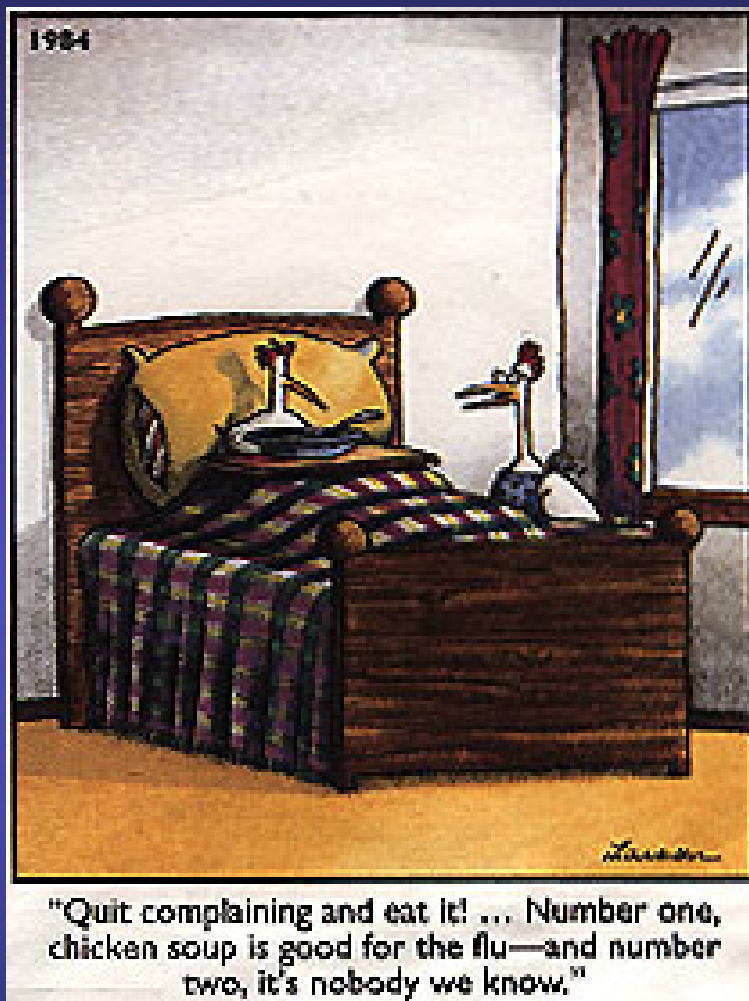
Future AI Initiatives

- Increase number of participating States in the LBMS
- Develop sampling protocols for the LBMS
- Continue field/laboratory support with cooperative agreements
- Complete development and implementation of national avian / poultry disease database
 - NPIP (poultry breeder flocks and production flocks)
 - LBMS
 - Wild birds



Protecting American Agriculture





Questions?



Protecting American Agriculture

